



Program Manager Assembled
Chemical Weapons Alternatives

Pueblo Community Forum on Acceleration Options

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

Saturday, July 26, 2003

9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Pueblo Convention Center, 320 Central Main St., Pueblo, CO

Information

The partnership that includes the Pueblo Chemical Depot, the Colorado Citizens' Advisory Commission, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Bechtel Pueblo, and the Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives among others, invites you to attend an informational forum.

A group of approximately 50 Pueblo-area community leaders will discuss and provide advice regarding upcoming events in the chemical weapons destruction process. The forum agenda will focus on acceleration options under consideration to speed the destruction of the stockpile, as directed by the Department of Defense. Acceleration discussions began in previous community forums, resulting in mutually acceptable methods to help destroy the weapons more quickly. Some of these concepts are already in the process of being implemented, such as pursuing innovative regulatory permitting approaches and faster contracting methods.

At a previous forum, an option to ship neutralization by-products off the depot for commercial treatment was discussed. While it was noted that such shipments could save money and time, some community members expressed concern regarding a perceived loss of jobs and sending waste to other communities. At the time, however, there was insufficient data to clarify the real impacts--positive or negative. Thus, it was agreed that possible impacts would be studied and then reviewed by a local subcommittee of the Citizens' Advisory Commission, known as the "Acceleration Options Working Group." This group along with members of the ACWA program staff will be presenting data and recommendations at the upcoming forum so that the government may consider these recommendations and other community input before making final decisions.

Opportunities will be made available for public comment at this meeting. As registration is required, please complete the attached response form and return it to the Pueblo Chemical Depot Community Outreach Office before July 14, 2003.



**For more information, contact the
Pueblo Chemical Depot Community Outreach Office
at 719-546-0400, fax 719-546-0409**